

REMARKS

This Response is filed in reply to the Final Office Action dated May 14, 2004. Claims 1, 2 and 31-52 are in the application. Claims 1, 2 and 31-40 are allowed. Claims 41-52 have been rejected.

In this Response, Applicants cancel claims 41-52, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the instant or a subsequent application. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 31-40 are pending in the present application. The issues of the May 14, 2004 Final Office Action are deemed moot in view of this amendment and response. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 1, 2 and 31-40. Based on the above, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to the claims be entered in that the amendments clearly place the claims in condition for allowance.

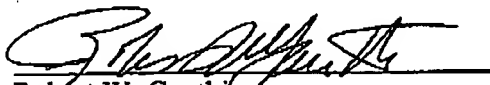
CONCLUSION

Applicants consider the Response herein to be fully responsive to the referenced Final Office Action. Based on the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 617-832-1175.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 10, 2004

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